Biography

For the next few weeks I will be working with Thomas. Thomas is a 4th grader in Mr. Utsumi’s class. I think we will have a good time working with each other but I am going to struggle with keeping him on task I think. He has a VERY vivid imagination and loves to tell stories. I am finding it hard to decipher what is true and false with what he tells me. Thomas told me he loves to read and reads frequently and owns many books. Thomas has an older brother who is 16 and it sounds like they have a good relationship. He told me that his mom and dad use to read to him a lot when he was younger and really encourage him to read. But his favorite subjects are math and science.

Thomas seems like a very smart student so I’m not sure what I need to focus on with him. I’ve seen some spelling issues in his writing that I could work on with him but he is a very strong reader. The only other problem I have seen with him is his retelling of the story. I don’t think it is a comprehension issue as he knows the key points and what the story is about but his imagination gets the better of him and he starts adding things that were not part of the story. It’s difficult for me because I don’t want to tell him to stop telling me stories because I think it’s great he has such a vivid imagination but it’s difficult to stay on task and accomplish much. I’d really like if he would write all his stories down because I think they are good stories but he just can’t help but always tell me about them.

Thomas says one of his favorite books is *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. But I think we are going to focus on animals and dinosaurs, he loves animals and actually knows quite a bit about them. I believe that it will keep his focus more than any other subject. Spelling will probably be the big area of focus for us so I will need to come up with some spelling games to play with him to help him in that area. I look forward to working with Thomas because I don’t see us every having a dull time. It should be fun and hopefully educational for both of us.